



Office of the Director of Education

May 2, 2011

Dear Parent/Guardian/CSAC Chair/Staff of Dante Alighieri:

I am pleased to provide you with an update on the status of accommodation for students and staff at Dante Alighieri Academy. Two recent meetings have taken place with your CSAC and the Associate Director of Planning and Facilities, and since that time, I am pleased to advise you that the Board has recognized the urgency of the accommodation needs at Dante and has approved this project as its highest Capital Priority. You can Review that report to Board on the TCDSB website at:

<http://www.tcdsb.org/trustees/Agendas/Board.%202011-03-24/Board%20Agenda.%202011-03-24.%20Capital%20Priorities%20Update.pdf>

The Board has submitted its capital priorities to the Ministry of Education for funding approval, and we are hopeful that it will be considered as part of the \$600 million Capital Budget recently announced by the Ministry of Education.

Even if this funding is approved by the end of June 2011, the permanent solution for Dante will not be in place for several years, and we will require an interim solution for the grade 9 students currently accommodated at Bathurst Heights (the Beatrice Campus). Since the Toronto District School Board has terminated the Board's lease at Bathurst Heights, the most readily available solution to the Board at this time is to relocate the Beatrice Campus to Sir Sanford Fleming.

As you may be aware, we have already started consultations with both the Dante and St. Margaret communities about the use of Sir Sanford Fleming over the short term, and we will be bringing a report to the board meeting in June 2011.

We are still in the process of negotiating a lease with TDSB for the use of the Sir Sanford Fleming facility. Although we have made significant progress, there are still some monetary issues to be resolved and we are working with the Ministry of Education to resolve those outstanding matters.

We recognize that the uncertainty around the temporary accommodation of grade 9 students at Dante is presenting challenges for everyone involved, but we remain hopeful that a solution will be found very soon. Be assured that the Board is working very hard to find a temporary solution for September, while also working towards a permanent solution for the entire Dante Community.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Ann Perron".

Ann Perron
Director of Education

cc. Maria Rizzo, Trustee
Doug Yack, Superintendent of Education